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COUNTY BOROUGH OF SUNDERLAND

FORTY-SIXTH
**ANNUAL
REPORT**

of the
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE



FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER, 1954

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For the Year ended DECEMBER, 1954

PELAW-ON-TYNE:

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Education Committee

Chairman :

Alderman E. JOHNSTON, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Alderman J. TWEDDLE.

School Health and Welfare Sub-Committee

Chairman :

The Mayor, Alderman Mrs. J. HUGGINS, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Alderman J. COHEN, O.B.E., J.P.

DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION :

Mr. WILLIAM THOMPSON, M.Ed., B.Sc., J.P.

Staff

School Medical Officer :

A. S. HEBBLETHWAITE, M.C., M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Senior Assistant School Medical Officer :

JESSIE R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistant School Medical Officers :

MARION L. BAINBRIDGE, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

SYBIL A. B. WARD, M.B., B.S.

GEOFFREY C. SLADE, M.B., B.S.

EDITH P. GILBERTSON, M.B., B.S.

Senior Dental Officer :

W. J. PROUD, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officers :

JOYCE FRASE, L.D.S.

PETER W. GIBSON, L.D.S.

EILEEN A. SUFFIELD, L.D.S.

Speech Therapist :

Mrs. J. H. TURNER.

Assistant Speech Therapist :

Post vacant.

Ophthalmic Surgeon :

GERTRUDE B. LEIGH, M.B., CH.B. (Part-time).

Organisers of Physical Education :

Miss P. M. PETERS. Miss A. GRAY (Assistant).
Mr. P. J. GILLESPIE.

School Nurses :

Mrs. D. WILKINSON.	Mrs. A. CHEAVINS.
Mrs. A. FAIRCLOUGH.	Miss F. KEAVENY.
Mrs. M. DONKIN.	Mrs. C. CHARLTON.
Miss S. YOUNG.	Miss D. E. ROBSON.
Mrs. D. McHUGH.	Miss E. FRAIN.
Mrs. V. DOWNEY.	Miss E. BIGLAND.
Miss M. McCROSSAN.	Mrs. L. PIGG.

Clerks :

Mrs. D. DRAPER (Sen. Clerk).	Miss M. HENLEY.
Miss M. I. THOMPSON.	Miss M. GRAY.
Miss E. BELL.	Miss M. ATKINSON.

Dental Attendants :

Miss J. JOHNSON.	Miss E. CLEMENT.
Miss L. HALLIDAY.	Mrs. N. WATSON.

Bathing Attendants :

Mrs. N. VOSPER.	Mrs. L. SMITH.
Mrs. M. RUTHERFORD.	

Child Guidance Clinic

Psychiatrist :

W. HINDS, M.B., B.S., D.P.M. (Part-time).

Pædiatrician :

Miss J. R. WATSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Psychiatric Social Worker :

Miss I. R. STIRLING, M.A.
Post-graduate Diploma—Social Science. Diploma Mental Health.

Educational Psychologist :

IAN S. FLETT, M.A., B.ED.
(Resigned August, 1954).

Miss J. M. TENNISON, B.SC., DIP. ED. PSYCH.
(Appointed November, 1954)

Clerks :

Miss L. M. HAMMOND.	Miss P. M. McCONNELL.
Miss M. DAVISON.	

FORTY-SIXTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

The Annual Report of the work of the School Health Service for the year 1954 is submitted in accordance with the instructions of the Medical Branch of the Ministry of Education.

The total number of children examined by the School Medical Officers for the year was 9,297, compared with 9,843 in the preceding year, and for Dental Officers 13,996, compared with 14,357 for the previous year.

Nutrition.

Of the total number of children inspected during the year, namely, 9,297, 9,003 were classified as good or fair. This is equal to 96·84 per cent., comparing favourably with the previous year. The following table shows the complete classification as compared with the Year 1953.

	No. of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Year 1953 ..	9,843	4,864	49·42	4,569	46·42	410	4·17
Year 1954 ..	9,297	5,801	62·40	3,202	34·44	294	3·16

Cleansing Station.

Arrangements for the examination and cleansing of infested pupils, also the treatment of scabies, is carried out at Smyrna Place

Clinic, and the following table shows the number of cases and attendances paid during the year.

SCHOOL CHILDREN—

Scabies	....	....	....	36 cases paid 344 visits.
Eczema Capitis	....	....	....	70 cases paid 1,332 visits.
Pediculus Capitis	328 cases paid 1,560 visits.

ADULTS—

Scabies	12 cases paid 34 visits.
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Diphtheria Immunisation.

173 children of school age received complete protective doses, compared with 353 of the previous year; 69 children attended for one dose only, compared with 115 in the previous year; and 181 children failed to attend.

After five years of protection it is considered necessary to give an additional inoculation in order to prolong the protection. During the year 501 of these injections were administered, compared with 815 in 1953.

NURSERY SCHOOLS.

George Street Nursery has continued to take children between the ages of two and five years. During the year 40 children have been admitted and 42 children discharged.

St. Columba's C.E. Nursery accommodates children between the ages of three and five years, and during the year 44 children have been admitted and 44 children discharged.

Havelock Nursery has continued to take children between the ages of three and five years, and during the year 67 children were admitted and 55 children discharged.

SPECIAL SCHOOLS.

Fordhall School. There are at present 202 educationally sub-normal children in attendance, with 90 children on the waiting list.

Barbara Priestman School. Provision for the education of partially Blind, Deaf and Dumb, and Semi-Deaf children is made at this Special Day School. There are 88 children in attendance at this school.

Provision for the education of Blind children is made at Residential Schools. There are four children in attendance at such schools.

Thornfield Open-air Day School. Dr. SLADE reports :—

“This school has remained full to capacity throughout the year and there is a waiting list for new entrants.

Admissions during the year	....	....	....	34
Discharged back to previous schools on health recovery	....	....	....	21
Leavers during the year	....	....	....	11
Waiting list	....	....	....	12

Respiratory diseases have remained predominant of all illnesses of pupils at the school, and of these great success has been achieved by Nurse Donkin's classes, run daily, for promotion of correct breathing. The Ultra Violet Ray Clinic remains of value for the pupils who are obviously under-developed physically, and the number attending these courses, run twice weekly, has remained high.

The number of pupils in attendance at the end of the year was grouped as follows :—

Vascular System and Blood Diseases	....	20
Nervous System	....	28
Respiratory System	....	56
Bone Diseases	....	4
Others	....	12 "

The Oakwood School, Croft Spa, has continued to do good work. During the year 56 children were admitted and 63 children discharged. Regular visits are paid by your medical staff.

Milton Hall Special School. Forty boys have been in residence at this school throughout the year, and they have benefited greatly by their environment.

B.C.G. VACCINATION.

The scheme for B.C.G. Vaccination of selected groups of the population has been extended to school children and Local Authorities were authorised to offer vaccination to children in their fourteenth year.

This has been carried out in Sunderland by School Medical Officers—no increase in staff was found necessary and there has been no interference in the work of the School Health Service.

A letter, with consent form, was sent to parents of all children in the age group. A School Medical Officer then visited each school and carried out a tuberculin test (Mantoux) and two and a half days later returned to note the result and carry out B.C.G. vaccination where necessary.

Two weeks later another visit was paid to the school to inspect the vaccination, and again in about six to eight weeks to carry out a post-B.C.G. Mantoux test.

All children who were originally Mantoux positive were later asked to attend the Mass Radiography Unit along with other members of the family.

We are indebted to the Chest Physicians for their help and advice.

The following table gives details of B.C.G. vaccination during the year :—

- 1,610 children were Mantoux tested.
- 891 children were found to have a negative reaction and were given a B.C.G. vaccination.
- 620 children were found to be Mantoux positive.
- 47 children were found to be doubtful.
- 525 children out of 620 notified attended for Mass Radiography X-ray. Eight of these children were found to have active T.B.
- 446 contacts attended for Mass Radiography X-ray.

DENTAL SERVICE.

The following table shows the number of children inspected and treated during the year, as compared with the preceding year :—

			Number Inspected		Number Treated
1953	....	....	14,357	.....	8,815
1954	....	....	13,996	.....	8,885

Mr. PROUD, Senior Dental Officer, reports as follows :—

“Dental treatment given during the year was on the whole similar to that of the previous year, and the value of the work almost the same. In addition to the treatment detailed in Table V, 105 pupils commenced a course of orthodontic treatment, and 101 were provided with partial dentures. In almost every case the dentures were necessary to replace one or more front teeth which had been lost as the result of accident.

Progress during the year towards the provision of regular inspection and treatment for all pupils was retarded owing to the unsuccessful efforts to recruit additional dental officers to the staff. In spite of frequent advertising in professional journals, and in the local press, there were no applications for the vacant posts. It is not easy to view the staffing position with any degree of optimism, because in addition to the difficulties created by the general shortage of dentists, it would appear that the majority of the number who decide to make a career of school dentistry prefer to seek engagements in non-industrial areas. The dental staff is further hampered by the rising tide of applications for emergency treatment. Priority is given to these cases, as the majority are requests for the relief of pain, but their treatment continues to interfere seriously with the primary work of conservation. Until the shortage of dental officers has been overcome, the existing staff can deal with only a comparatively small proportion of the vast amount of treatment needed.”

SPEECH THERAPY.

Mrs. TURNER, Speech Therapist, reports :—

“During the year 1954, 233 children were treated for speech defects at the Speech Clinic, 23, Mowbray Road, and at the Southwick Branch Clinic. It has been a good year in spite of the fact that the children were on fortnightly treatment for the latter four months of the year.

This year it has been impossible to spend a great deal of time on school visiting, but during 1955 more time will be given to school visiting as the interviewing of patients awaiting treatment and the review of cases on the supervision list will be carried out during school holidays.

Good co-operation with the School Medical Service, Child Guidance Clinic, Remedial Coaching Department, schools and parents has been maintained throughout the year, also with Miss Morley (Children's Department of the Royal Victoria Infirmary, Newcastle), to whom eight patients were referred for audiometer testing.

As always, the Ear, Nose and Throat Department of the Sunderland Royal Infirmary has been extremely helpful and expeditious in their co-operation with us.

The Speech Clinic was unfortunate in losing the services of Miss Hastings, Senior Speech Therapist, in September, 1954.

Number of patients treated	....	....	233
Number of patients discharged	....	....	70
Number of patients on supervision (after treatment)	....	....	28
Number of patients on supervision (not receiving treatment)	....	....	7
Number of patients referred	....	....	113
Number of appointments made for new patients to be interviewed	....	....	87
Number of new patients interviewed	....	....	72
Number of patients awaiting treatment after interview	....	....	29
Number of patients awaiting interview	....	....	70 "

Cleanliness.

During the year 31,000 children were examined for cleanliness, and of these only 13.55 per cent. were found unclean. This shows a slight decrease compared with the year 1953, when 14.38 per cent. were similarly declared unclean.

Orthopædics.

Specialists have continued during the year to see Orthopædic cases submitted to them at the Sunderland Orthopædic and Accident Hospital. Thirty-three children were referred for advice and treatment.

SCHOOL CLINICS.

As requested by the Ministry, the following information gives the location of the School Clinics, and the sessions held at each :—

Hylton Road Branch Clinic. This clinic serves the west area and is situated at No. 44, Hylton Road. Sessions are held every morning and Tuesday and Friday afternoons, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance

on a Tuesday afternoon and a Friday morning. Dental treatment is also carried out at this clinic—sessions are held every morning and afternoon.

Villette Road Branch Clinic. This clinic serves the south area. Sessions are held every morning and Monday afternoons, a School Nurse being in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on a Monday afternoon.

Southwick Branch Clinic. This clinic is situated at No. 9, The Terrace, Southwick, and serves the north area. Sessions are held every morning and Monday and Thursday afternoons, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on Monday afternoons and Thursday mornings. Dental treatment is also carried out at this clinic—sessions are held every morning and afternoon.

Hendon Clinic. This clinic serves the east area and is situated in Smyrna Place, Hendon. This is a Minor Ailments and Cleansing Clinic. A School Nurse is in attendance every morning, also Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. Two Bathing Attendants are in attendance every morning and afternoon. A School Medical Officer attends on a Thursday morning.

Thorney Close Clinic. This clinic is held in the Girls' Department of Thorney Close School and serves the outlying estates in the west area. Sessions are held every morning, when a School Nurse is in attendance. A School Medical Officer is in attendance on a Thursday morning.

Central Clinic. This clinic is situated at No. 15, John Street. Special cases only are seen at this clinic by appointment, e.g., Ophthalmic cases, educationally sub-normal, &c. Dental treatment is also carried out at this clinic—sessions are held every morning and afternoon.

STAFF.

A complete list of the staff is set out on pages 4 and 5.

Dr. E. P. Gilbertson was appointed on the 1st January, 1954.

Nurses E. Bigland and L. Pigg were appointed on the 1st February, 1954. These appointments were to fill vacancies created in 1953.

In conclusion, I take this opportunity of appreciating the activities of my Senior Assistant School Medical Officer, Dr. J. R. Watson, and the Assistant School Medical and Dental Officers, who, together with the Nursing and Clerical staff, have helped me in the work of School Medicine throughout the year.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee, together with the Director of Education, I tender my sincerest thanks.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

A. S. HEBBLETHWAITE,

*Medical Officer of Health and
School Medical Officer.*

Annual Report of the Organisers of Physical Education

FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

Miss P. M. PETERS and Mr. P. J. GILLESPIE report :—

Plimsolls.

5,232 pairs of plimsolls were delivered to the schools during the summer and autumn terms. Of these, 3,987 pairs of laced shoes were supplied to schools with children aged 7 years and upwards, and 1,245 pairs of elastic strap shoes were supplied to schools with children aged 5 to 7 years.

164 dozen extra pairs of laces were supplied.

Storage of Plimsolls.

Forty-nine storage lockers were supplied to schools ; four to Secondary Modern Schools and 45 to Primary Schools.

Apparatus—Small Gear and Games Equipment.

As far as was considered reasonable, all requirements have been met.

Gymnasia and Gymnastic Apparatus.

Routine inspections of both fixed and portable apparatus have been carried out and all necessary repairs have been completed.

More portable gymnastic apparatus has been supplied to schools without gymnasia where it was felt that such apparatus could be put to good use.

Agility Apparatus.

Additional pieces of apparatus have been supplied to 10 Infant Schools. This means that 32 Primary Junior and Primary Infant Schools now have some climbing apparatus and good progress is being made. No child is ever forced to use this apparatus but it is found that no child stands apart for long, and many teachers are agreeably surprised how working on this apparatus in his or her own time assists the development of the nervous child.

Sunderland Schools' Sports Association.

A meeting of the Association was held on 11th March, 1954, when it was decided that the Association was no longer serving any useful purpose and should be terminated.

Sunderland Schools' Athletic Association.

A meeting was held on 29th March, 1954, at which the Sunderland Schools' Athletic Association was formed.

The aims of the Association are to encourage the practice of athletics in schools and to improve the style and raise the standard of performance. The Association will cater for the needs of children aged 11 years and over. In no way will the sports days of individual schools, which have on the whole reached a very satisfactory standard, be interfered with by the formation of this Association.

Sunderland Schools' Athletic Meeting.

The Association held its first meeting in July on the Bede Grammar School field. Approximately 2,000 people were present. Nearly all the schools in the town which were eligible (i.e., schools with boys or girls aged 11 years and upwards) had children competing in the heats, which were completed prior to this meeting, and a great number of schools were represented in the finals.

For a first meeting it was most successful and this was due largely to the willing help of men and women teachers.

School Sports.

During the summer term 67 schools held their own Sports Days. Forty-five of these were held on the three school playing fields (Spark Farm, Hylton Road and Seaburn), 13 were held on the playing field or in the playground attached to the school concerned and nine were held on outside fields.

It is a matter for concern that a small number of schools still prefer to hold their sports on a hard-surfaced playground where, in addition to the space being limited, there is a greater likelihood of accidents, rather than use one of the available fields.

Schools' Badminton Association.

The Association, which is run by the teachers of the schools concerned, has already organised two most successful events. The first consisted of demonstration games given by Durham County Team Players, to which each school sent a group of children; the second was a coaching demonstration for the benefit of the teachers, when they saw experts coaching a group of children. The session ended with a coaching session for the teachers.

GIRLS' GAMES

Netball.

This has been a season of steady progress. The improved standard of play being particularly noticeable in the girls of junior school age.

Netball Tournaments.

In previous years a shield has been presented at each tournament to the school who won the first team section but this year, as the result of the efforts of both teachers and children, sufficient money

was raised by the Schools' Netball Association to purchase two shields. A third shield was presented to the Association by Plains Farm Junior School. These new shields were competed for by the teams in the second team sections at the three annual tournaments.

At the three American Tournaments held at Thorney Close Secondary Modern School, 77 teams took part. This meant that 539 girls have played in a tournament this season.

- (1) On 7th March. For Senior teams (29 teams played).
1st team winners : Grange Park Girls.
2nd team winners : Grange Park Girls.
- (2) On 10th April. For Lower Senior teams (26 teams played).
1st team winners : Grange Park Girls and Cowan Terrace (shared).
2nd team winners : Grange Park Girls.
- (3) On 8th May. For Junior teams (22 teams played).
1st team winners : Pallion Junior.
2nd team winners : High Southwick Junior Girls.

The Schools' Netball Association was pleased to welcome to the Senior Tournament the Director of Education and to the Junior Tournament the Assistant Director of Education, who each spoke to the girls and presented the shields to the winning teams.

It was unfortunate that owing to a change of date due to rain, the Deputy Director of Education was unable to be present at the Lower Senior Tournament. The shields on this occasion were presented to the winning teams by the Vice-Chairman of the Association.

Team Trials.

The week after the Senior Tournament trials were held, and the following school teams were chosen to represent the Sunderland Schools' Netball Association at the Inter-Town Tournament :—

Cowan Terrace and Grange Park Girls.

Inter-Town Tournament.

This year the Inter-Town Tournament was held at Thorney Close Secondary Modern School on Saturday, 27th March, when the Sunderland Association was responsible for the organisation and running of the tournament.

The weather was perfect and this, combined with the help so willingly given by a large number of head and assistant teachers and girls, made it a most successful tournament.

The Mayor and Mayoress and the Deputy Director of Education were present for some of the games and for the luncheon which followed. Unfortunately, neither the Chairman of the Education Committee nor the Director of Education was able to be present.

Netball Tournament (Autumn Term).

In order to give girls who were due to leave school at Christmas an opportunity to take part, an extra tournament was arranged. All schools concerned were invited to enter one team, and 19 schools did so. The tournament was held at Thorney Close School on Saturday, 27th November.

Girls' Athletics Course.

A course for girls was held at Thorney Close School every Thursday evening throughout the summer term. Eight girls from each of 14 schools attended and worked in groups under the guidance of 15 women teachers who had volunteered to assist. At the end of each evening session any teacher who wished to do so stayed to give further coaching to the girls from her own school.

Rounders Tournament.

The first inter-school rounders tournament was held at Seaburn Playing Field in June, when eight schools took part.

Hockey.

In order to gain some idea as to how hockey might be further developed in secondary modern schools, two informal tournaments were organised. As this was an experiment, four schools only were asked to take part in each tournament and each teacher was asked to coach her own team throughout the games. The head teachers of the schools concerned were present and it was unanimously agreed that the teaching of hockey to secondary modern school girls was worth while, but that in order to encourage a higher standard of play there should be more inter-school games if these could be arranged without interfering unduly with netball matches.

Cricket.

This summer three secondary modern schools have been asked to introduce cricket for some of the girls. The girls are enjoying the games but it is not possible to say whether very much progress will be made as the time available is so limited.

Out-of-School Gymnastic Classes—Girls.

In most secondary schools the teacher responsible for physical education is now taking a weekly class after school for those girls who are keen to attempt more advanced work than is possible during the normal school periods. In addition, one teacher has started a class for former pupils.

Dancing Festival.

It was decided that, during this school year, instead of the usual adjudications, demonstrations should be given so that the parents of the children taking part might have the opportunity, which they have never previously had, of seeing some of the work.

Thirty-six classes have expressed a wish to take part and each of these classes will be included in one of four evening programmes which will be given in Bede Tower Hall during March. Some of the schools will repeat their performances before an audience of members of Committee and teachers on 4th April.

Visit to Thorney Close Secondary Modern Girls' School.

On 3rd February all the women organisers and lecturers in physical education from Northumberland, Durham and North Yorkshire spent the day at Thorney Close School. The visit was arranged at the request of Miss Ghaleb, H.M.I., because of the outstanding work being done in physical education in this school. In the morning the Director of Education spoke on "Playing Fields and Playgrounds," and in the afternoon the visitors saw some of the physical education in the school.

BOYS' GAMES.

Association Football.

One hundred and eight teams are now taking part in Inter-School football. Every new school is represented in the League. The allocation of pitches has become increasingly difficult, but this can be eased by using fields attached to schools for the playing of Inter-School games, thus reducing the burden on the three main fields.

The School League Championship (1953-54) was won by Monkwearmouth Grammar School.

In the 1953-54 season Sunderland Boys' team reached the fifth round in the English Schools' Trophy.

Many friendly games were played ; that against Newcastle at Roker Park was in aid of the " Save the Children Fund."

During the present season the representative side has qualified for the competition proper of the English Schools' Trophy for the eighth time in ten post-war seasons.

Five boys played in County matches, and two boys, B. Wright and B. Wynn were selected for International Trial.

Schools' Cricket.

The competition was organised in seven leagues—four Senior and three Junior. The Senior League winners were : West Southwick (North), St. Aidan's (East), Hendon (South), and Barnes (West). St. Aidan's won the final game against Hendon, thus winning the Swan Cup for three years in succession.

The Junior League winners were : High Southwick (North), Hendon (South) and Pallion (West).

Forty-eight teams, 24 Junior and 24 Senior, competed in the leagues ; this is a record number.

Sunderland Boys' team played four games and won three, losing to South Shields in the first round of the Durham Schools' Cup.

Four Sunderland boys were selected to play for Durham County and one boy, McCabe, was also selected to represent the North of England against the South of England at Liverpool.

Schools' Rugby.

Thorney Close Secondary Modern Boys' School played its first rugby game in February of this year. The introduction of rugby at this school will benefit other schools by providing opposition and increasing the number of possible fixtures.

Four schools in the town now play regular games. Bede Boys' Grammar School, Villiers Street Technical School, West Park Boys' School and Thorney Close Secondary Modern Boys' School.

P. Lavery, of Bede Boys' Grammar School, played for Durham County "under 18" teams during the 1953-54 season.

During the present season four boys from Villiers Street and six from Bede Grammar School played in the Durham County Trials (under 15 years), three boys from Bede played in the Final Trials, and one boy, Wilson (Bede) played in all three County games and has been chosen to play in the International Trial.

Four boys from Bede Grammar School were selected to play in the first County (Senior) Trial, two played in the Final Trial, and one boy, Thompson, has been chosen as reserve for Durham County team.

Swimming.

Sunderland Schools' Swimming Association continued to hold Life-Saving classes. Regular instruction is given by Mr. A. Common, Mr. F. Whiting and Mr. A. S. Walton. Monkwearmouth Grammar School, Deptford Terrace Secondary Modern and Diamond Hall Boys' School each held their own Life-Saving classes.

Deptford Terrace Secondary Modern School won the boys' section of the Sunderland Schools' A.S.A. Life-Saving Competition and later competed in the A. C. Cox Memorial Trophy Competition.

Sunderland Schools' Swimming Association organised a successful Boys' Swimming Gala on 27th October, 1954; West Park Boys', Monkwearmouth Grammar and Bede Boys' Grammar Schools each held a successful gala during 1954.

During 1954, seven boys gained the Schools' Medallist Award of the English Schools' Swimming Association.

R. Manning, of Diamond Hall Boys' School, gained the distinction of becoming All-England Champion in the breast stroke for schoolboys under 15 years of age. R. Manning had previously been selected to represent Northumberland and Durham in the Inter-Counties Schools contest against Yorkshire.

Two members of the Teachers' Club gained awards : Mr. B. Swan, Havelock Secondary Modern—Bar to Bronze Medallion, and the Award of Merit ; and Mr. B. Lawson, Monkwearmouth Grammar School—Bronze Medallion and Unigrip.

Athletics.—Boys.

Two schools competed in the Athletic Meeting arranged by the N.E. Division of Durham County Schools' Athletic Association. Thorney Close Secondary Modern Boys' School affiliated separately to the Durham County Schools' Athletic Association in order that boys would be allowed to enter and gain experience at this meeting. Villiers Street Technical School, affiliated for several years, has competed regularly, and has obtained noteworthy results this year, gaining the following positions : High Jump (Senior), second ; 440 yards, third ; Putting the Weight, fifth ; High Jump (Junior), sixth.

Bede Grammar School boys competed at the Public Schools' Athletic Meeting ; G. Randle was placed fifth in the Mile, and A. Cowey was first in the Pole Vault (at 11 feet 2 inches). A. Cowey represented Northumberland and Durham at White City, at Whitsuntide. Competing against the best man from each County, he succeeded in gaining eighth place in the Pole Vault.

Three boys from Bede Grammar School represented Durham County in the Schools' Amateur Athletic Championship Meeting in July, 1954. They were A. Cowey (Pole Vault), R. Randle (One Mile), and W. B. Young (440 yards). A. Cowey was placed second in the Pole Vault ; he equalled the height of the winner, 11 feet 5½ inches, which was a new " Best Performance."

As a Freshman, Mr. Cowey represented Cambridge University against Oxford University in November, 1954, and gained first place in the Pole Vault.

Thorney Close Secondary Modern Boys' School Second Annual Athletic Meeting was held on 14th July on the school track, and was a very well organised meeting.

Coaching in Athletics—Boys.

A special Coaching Class in Athletics was started on Saturday, 15th May, 1954, at Thorney Close Secondary Modern School. The aim is to provide instruction and practice for any boy who is interested in Athletics, and the class is open to all boys over 12 years of age. The excellent facilities have enabled instructors and boys to do some enjoyable and useful work. Mr. R. Frith, Mr. A. Mustard and Mr. N. Allard instruct regularly, and they are supported by other teachers whenever they are free from school games duties.

Several schools from Sunderland and district take part in Inter-School Basket Ball games. The gradual provision of facilities should increase the number of schools competing. The develop-

ment of basket ball in Sunderland is suggestive of the influence of the Men's Activities Association in schools. The Association Basket Ball Group, under Mr. Prestwich's leadership, was formed, and made good progress. This group later helped in the organisation of a Basket Ball Demonstration on 25th March, 1954, which included performers from leading N.E. teams. The activities of the group and the effect of the demonstration engendered interest among members, and those who were teachers were encouraged to introduce training into schools and, later, to take part in Inter-School games.

Provision of Facilities.

CRICKET.—The Universal Matting Artificial Cricket Pitch provided by the Education Committee for use at Spark Farm Playing Field was tried last season and was favourably commented on by experienced cricketers.

Arrangements were made again last season for certain schools to use Vaux's Sports Ground at Glenesk Road for cricket. The generous granting of this privilege is particularly valuable, for facilities are made available not only for games periods during school time, but also for the playing of several Inter-School games in the evenings.

ATHLETICS.—Take-off areas and sandpits for High and Long Jumps, constructed in accordance with recognised standards, have been provided at Spark Farm and Seaburn Playing Fields and at Thorney Close Secondary Modern School. Children are thus being granted opportunities for practice under safe and correct conditions. These facilities have been put to profitable use by schools and by those concerned with Youth Courses.

BOYS' GAMES EQUIPMENT.—In order to achieve adequate and equitable distribution of games equipment, a minimum scale has been declared for each type of school. The aim is to supply each school in accordance with the appropriate scale and, thereafter, to preserve stock at that level by annual replacement. This method ultimately operates on the lines of an imprest account. This method has now been applied to all except Junior Schools, and it is hoped that Junior Schools will be equipped in accordance with the scale of minimum requirements during 1955.

REPAIR OF EQUIPMENT—SOCCER BALLS.—Arrangements have been made for the repair of soccer cases. Schools are asked to ensure that cases which are in need of repair are not used, but are made ready for collection. They are then sent for repair, in bulk. This use of repaired soccer cases should ensure that schools are adequately supplied, and some economy achieved. This system of repair will, later, be applied to other items of equipment, for example, cricket pads.

Bede Condition Co-efficient.

A report was sent to the Ministry of Education. It was examined by their statistical expert who, in his report, made certain observa-

tions. These observations have been considered and replied to. The Ministry's statistician concludes his report by stating that :—

“ In brief, I think this is an enterprising and useful piece of work, which may have fruitful results.”

The Director of Education has arranged for all (except Infant) schools to be provided with full details and granted an opportunity of applying the Co-efficient. Any value which may attach to the Co-efficient is thus made immediately available to all, and, by widening the scope, results are likely to be obtained earlier.

Copies of the pamphlet and the chart required for obtaining the Co-efficient have been supplied to many schools. The aim is to encourage the application of the Co-efficient, and arrangements have been made for any case of abnormality to be reported, when medical examination would follow, if required.

Mr. H. Wilson has produced a mechanical calculator which will replace the chart used at present. This will reduce the amount of time needed to obtain the Co-efficient from physical measurements.

The co-operation and active interest of T. Taylor, Esq., H.M.I., ensures continued investigation of present results and further potentialities of the B.C.C.

Sunderland Education Authority— Physical Education Coaching Series.

Two additions have recently been made to this series of teaching aids. They are :—

(a) “ Physical Education—Boys.”

(b) “ Suggestions on a Scheme of Work for Senior Boys.”

and copies have been forwarded to all schools concerned. The aim has been to deal, in some detail, with such topics as : Aims and Content, Table Construction, Vaulting, Agility Work, The Award System, and Bede Condition Co-efficient. Part II deals with the planning and operation of a comprehensive syllabus or scheme of work, and the choice of material for inclusion in the scheme, the aim being to impose on an existing gymnastic scheme progressive indoor and playground training in Athletics, Boxing, Cricket, Rugby and Soccer, and to furnish suggestions for a complete scheme of work, with ample teaching material, graded and classified for easy reference, to enable the teacher to operate the scheme with the greatest ease.

FOREWORDS.—The Director of Education, who has throughout encouraged and sponsored the work undertaken in connection with these productions, kindly consented to provide a “ Foreword ” to each, and has emphasised that the contents are presented with the intention of providing material for examination, of putting forward suggestions, and underlining some of the practical difficulties which arise. The aim is not to provide a scheme which must be rigidly followed, but to offer suggestions as a guide to those who are preparing their own schemes of work.

SUNDERLAND AND DISTRICT MEN'S PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION.

Sustained by the active support of Sunderland Education Authority, the Association has been able to make progress. The following have been held during 1954 :—

- | | | |
|---------------|------|---|
| 14th January | .... | W. Winterbottom, Esq., Director of Coaching, Football Association. Lecture, demonstration and films. |
| 19th January | .... | G. A. G. Dyson, Esq., Chief National Coach, Amateur Athletic Association. Lecture, films and film loops. |
| 24th February | .... | “ Hungary v. England ” soccer film, which Mr. Winterbottom kindly placed at the disposal of the Director of Education. |
| 2nd March | .... | “ Focus on Badminton.” Demonstration and games by All-England Champions. |
| 11th March | .... | “ The Way to Wimbledon.” Mr. Dan Maskell, Coach to the All-England Lawn Tennis Club, Wimbledon. Lecture, films and demonstration. |
| 25th March | .... | Basket Ball Demonstration by Vickers Armstrong and Newcastle teachers. |
| 28th April | .... | Judo demonstration and F.I.F.A. soccer film. The film was again provided by Mr. Winterbottom. |
| 3rd May .... | .... | Swimming Coaching demonstration by Mr. Matt Mann, Coach to the American Olympic Swimming Team. (In conjunction with Northumberland and Durham Swimming Association.) |
| 26th June | .... | Archery Display by Sunderland and District Archery League. |
| 6th October | .... | Lecture by E. Major, Esq., M.B.E., Staff Inspector, Ministry of Education. |
| 23rd October | .... | Judo Week-end. Visit of Mr. Koizumi, 7th Dan and National Coach. (In co-operation with C.C.P.R.) |
| 8th December | .... | “ Spotlight on Sport,” arranged in co-operation with C.C.P.R. This was a particularly successful evening and, judging from later comments, those who attended enjoyed watching a wide range of physical activities demonstrated by champions and experts in the various branches. |

Twenty members volunteered to serve on the Organising Committee, which deals with all arrangements connected with each demonstration, lecture, or film.

The total membership of approximately 150 includes 25 representatives of sports organisations in Sunderland and district. There

are 15 voluntary groups, each controlled by a Chairman, who directs the activities of his particular group, e.g., Athletics, Soccer, Tennis, &c.

EXAMPLES.

Visual Aids Group. The organisation will operate under four headings, i.e., (a) viewing ; (b) appraising and selecting material ; (c) responsibility for actual projection ; (d) making of films and film-strips for other groups who wish to undertake production.

Basket Ball. Regular practice has produced two teams. Games have been arranged with other clubs. The basket ball demonstration was attended by many teachers and boys, a good deal of interest was engendered, and it is expected that Inter-School games will result.

Gymnastic Group. This group, under the leadership of Mr. A. S. Walton and Mr. B. Bagley, meets each Wednesday evening to practice demonstration work. The demonstration team appeared in the "Spotlight on Sport" programme on 8th December, and two further requests for their services have been received.

Soccer Group. Under the Chairmanship of Mr. A. Snell, this group has formed a team and plays friendly games during this season. Weekly training sessions are held in Tatham Street Gymnasium. This group names its team "The Harlequins," so does the basket ball group. It would appear that "Harlequins" will be used for most Association teams.

Other groups continue to function successfully. The encouragement given by the Education Authority ensures reasonable cost to members and enables many to afford membership of more than one group. At the request of some members, it was decided at a Council meeting to grant facilities to ladies, introduced by members, to become members of those groups where it is appropriate to have mixed membership, e.g., tennis and badminton.

The Association has had great advantage in the co-operation which has been given by the Central Council of Physical Recreation. We are fortunate in having, as Vice-Chairman, A. L. Colbeck, Esq., M.B.E., Senior Technical Representative, C.C.P.R.

COURSES AND EVENING CLASSES FOR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS AND ADULTS.

Further Training of Teachers—Women.

(1) TALK ON PHYSICAL EDUCATION FOR TEACHERS IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS.

In response to numerous requests, particularly from married women teachers who had recently returned to the profession and who had, therefore, not been present at any training course during recent years, a talk on the changes which have taken place during the last ten years and on what is now expected in physical education was given in March to approximately 150 women teachers.

After the talk questions were invited and various points were discussed.

(2) SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCING.

A seven-weeks' course in Scottish Country Dancing was held during the spring term and was attended by 41 women teachers, a large number of whom were specialising in secondary modern schools. The aim of the course was to give teachers a sound knowledge of the techniques and steps required, as well as giving them practice in the performance of dances.

Hockey Day Course.

A most successful course was held at Thorney Close School on 25th October, when the coach was Miss M. Cadel, the national coach of the All-England Women's Hockey Association, who is herself a former international player. The course was attended by 24 women teachers, all of whom are responsible for coaching hockey in schools. The theme of the course was "Hockey for Beginners," and two demonstrations were given, one with girls who had never played hockey before and one with girls who had played for one season.

Athletics Courses—Men and Women Teachers.

On 1st, 2nd and 3rd June, Mr. D. Watts, Official Coach to the A.A.A., conducted a course for men and women teachers who are responsible for the coaching of children in the Sunderland schools. The course, which was held at the Bede Grammar School, was attended by 20 men and 20 women teachers, all of whom took part in the practical sessions. By talks, demonstrations and films, the teachers were given the coaching points, fundamentals and possible leading up practices for all the events which are suitable for children. In addition, the teachers had time for individual practice and the opportunity to coach each other.

The Durham County Schools' Athletic Association, to which the Sunderland Schools' Athletic Association is affiliated, held a four-day course at Houghton-le-Spring during January, when the coaches were Mr. G. Dyson and Mr. D. Watts. Three places were allotted to each affiliated association, so two men and one woman teacher from Sunderland attended.

Teachers' and Leaders' Course—Men.

This course started in Bede School on 13th October, has been held each Wednesday, and will continue in 1955.

- AIMS.—(a) To provide instruction and material which will be of value to teachers of both Junior and Senior boys ;
- (b) to assist leaders who seek to improve their knowledge of Physical Education in order to improve the work in clubs ;

- (c) to provide practical work for adults who enjoy advanced work and preparation for demonstration work.

NOTE.—It was from this “demonstration group” that men were drawn to take part in the “Spotlight on Sport” on 8th December, 1954.

SCHEME OF WORK.—Theory and practical work are included. Lectures on theory of Physical Education are supported by practical sessions in the Gymnasium; this includes specimen lessons suitable for boys in the various age groups. The “Senior” work is influenced by the schemes recently provided (see “Physical Education Coaching Series”); “Junior” work is dealt with by Mr. E. Whiteley, Senior Lecturer in Physical Education, Bede College, Durham, who has achieved considerable recognition as a specialist in this branch.

It may be worthy of note that members of the course travel from areas outside Sunderland in order (a) to gain experience which will help in running their own Boys’ Clubs, (b) to take part in the demonstration work, and (c) to qualify for the certificate which is awarded by Sunderland Education Authority to those who are successful in the examination which is held at the end of the course.

Sunderland Youth Course.

The Director of Education consented to present Advanced Gymnastic Awards and Certificates to those who had gained them on the course which was held from October, 1953, to March, 1954. The presentation was made before an audience of approximately 400, immediately before the showing of the Soccer film on 24th February, 1954.

Summer Course, 1954.

A further course in Athletics, Cricket and Tennis, held each Thursday from 7.30 to 9 p.m. at Thorney Close Secondary Modern School, is very well attended. A good deal of interest is shown, also in Basket Ball and weight training for Athletics, and some opportunity is granted for participation in these.

Many young athletes who regularly attend this course competed at the Youth Athletic Meeting on 12th June, and the instructors were rewarded by noting their performances, and also by seeing the throwing events—Javelin, Discus and Shot—included in the programme for the first time.

The instructors include teachers (Mr. R. Frith, Organising Master; Mr. D. Prestwich and Mr. P. Layton) and also Mr. D. Bloomfield (Police Constable), who is a qualified coach, and Mr. H. Johnson (Central Council qualification). A good deal of assistance is given by Mr. W. Reed, an interested youth worker. All these members of the staff asked to be allowed to assist at this course on a completely voluntary basis.

The course in Gymnastics started again in October, 1954, and will continue in 1955 under the direction of Mr. R. Frith. The Director of Education again consented to present Advanced Gymnastics Awards to those who have gained them between October and December, 1954. In order to ensure that appropriate prominence was given to the value of these awards, they were, in each case, presented before a large audience. These awards were presented during the "Spotlight on Sport" programme on 8th December, 1954.

Evening Classes—Women.

The following classes have been held this term :—

- (1) Keep Fit and Dancing.
- (2) Keep Fit and Dancing. This is an afternoon class for married women, with a nursery attached for the children.
- (3) Scottish Country Dancing.
- (4) Irish Country Dancing. A class for men and women.
- (5) Judo.

All these classes will continue after Christmas.

An Open Class for Youths and Men is held each Tuesday evening in St. George's House Gymnasium.

A Physical Recreation Class, with special emphasis on Soccer Coaching, is held each Friday evening in Thorney Close Secondary Modern Boys' School Gymnasium for Doxford's apprentices.

Judo.

An open class in Judo, for men, was started in the Bede Boys' Grammar School Gymnasium on Friday, 1st October, 1954. Several requests for a Judo class had followed the Judo demonstration arranged by the Men's Physical Activities Association, and it was felt that the interest was sufficient to justify the formation of an open class. Mr. A. Walker, a fully-qualified instructor, holding the Black Belt, was appointed to instruct at this first Judo class to be arranged by the Sunderland Education Authority.

The response was very good, and the Friday evening session was so popular that it became necessary to start another class on Thursday evenings, particularly for beginners. Two members of the Association expressed willingness to instruct—Mr. M. C. Pace, who is the official instructor, and Mr. W. Bloomfield, who assists with the coaching. Several men attend on both Thursday and Friday evenings.

Provision of Milk and Meals

Miss E. W. COOK, Organiser of School Meals, reports :—

“ During the Easter holidays 1,096 children received free meals daily.

At Whitsuntide holiday 1,069 children received free meals daily.

During the summer vacation 1,132 free meals were served each day, with the exception of Bank Holiday.

Throughout the October holiday 1,025 children were provided with free meals each day.

The following table shows the number of children who received the mid-day meal during the year :—

January	....	....	....	....	9,607
February	....	....	....	....	9,345
March	....	....	....	....	9,464
April	....	....	....	....	9,345
May	....	....	....	....	9,250
June	....	....	....	....	9,209
July	....	....	....	....	9,061
August	....	....	....	....	1,129 (Free Meals)
September	....	....	....	....	8,903
October	....	....	....	....	8,386
November	....	....	....	....	9,096
December	....	....	....	....	8,987 ”

Mr. T. NICHOLLS, Superintendent Welfare Officer, reports :—

“ During the year 1954 the permitted quantity of milk supplied to children attending school remained at one-third of a pint per child, with the exception of those attending Thornfield Open-air Day School and the Nursery Schools, who have two-thirds of a pint daily.

During the year the average attendance in all schools was 28,559, and an average of 27,782 bottles of milk were consumed each day. The percentage of school children taking milk was 97·2, compared with 96·8 in 1953.”

Summary of Work

FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

INSPECTION WORK IN SCHOOLS.

Medical Officers.	1953	1954
Number of pupils examined at Primary and Secondary Schools	9,539	8,857
Number of pupils examined at Special Schools	250	440

School Dental Officers.

Number of pupils inspected	14,357	13,996
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School Nurses.

Number of examinations for cleanliness....	28,776	31,000
Percentage of children found unclean	14·38%	13·55%
Number of houses visited for " following-up "	1,129	1,957
Number of visits to schools <i>re</i> infectious disease	89	47

WORK AT CLINICS.

Treatment.

Skin Department.	1953	1954
Number of cases treated	2,962	3,902
Hylton Road Clinic	739	720
Villette Road Clinic	453	552
Southwick Clinic	690	818
Fordhall Clinic	182	209
Smyrna Place Clinic	585	884
Thorney Close Clinic....	313	719

Ophthalmic Department.

Number of children with defective vision examined by the Ophthalmic Specialist	1,548	1,382
Number re-examined by School Nurse	971	1,097
Number of such children examined at the Clinics	188	208
	1953	1954
Hylton Road Clinic	57	39
Villette Road Clinic	44	44
Southwick Clinic	75	93
Fordhall Clinic	—	—
Smyrna Place Clinic	1	8
Thorney Close Clinic....	11	24

			1953		1954
Number of Eye Diseases treated			413	....	377
		1953	1954		
Hylton Road Clinic	....	85	50		
Villette Road Clinic	....	61	63		
Southwick Clinic	....	123	100		
Fordhall Clinic	....	26	16		
Smyrna Place Clinic	....	69	70		
Thorney Close Clinic	....	49	78		

Aural Department.

Number of minor ear defects seen at the Clinics			522	....	569
		1953	1954		
Hylton Road Clinic	....	119	131		
Villette Road Clinic	....	62	61		
Southwick Clinic	....	104	92		
Fordhall Clinic	....	34	46		
Smyrna Place Clinic	....	98	96		
Thorney Close Clinic	....	105	143		

Special Conditions.

Number of cases treated			1,776	....	1,810
Hylton Road Clinic	....	667	605		
Villette Road Clinic	....	216	239		
Southwick Clinic	....	521	343		
Fordhall Clinic	....	44	113		
Smyrna Place Clinic	....	121	121		
Thorney Close Clinic	....	207	389		

Dental Treatment.

Number of cases treated			8,815	....	8,885
Number of attendances			13,634	....	14,054

Cleansing Clinic.

Number of children who attended for treatment of Scabies, &c.			403	....	434
Number of attendances			2,140	....	3,236

Ultra Violet Ray Clinic.

Number of cases treated			235	....	230
Number of attendances			3,930	....	3,236

Immunisation against Diphtheria.

Number of cases immunised, one dose			115	....	69
Number of cases immunised, two doses			353	....	173
Number of recurrent inoculations after five years			815	....	501
Number of attendances			1,636	916

TOTAL NUMBER OF ATTENDANCES AT THE ABOVE-NAMED CLINICS			63,248	73,428
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Ministry of Education

Medical Inspection Returns

FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

TABLE I.

MEDICAL INSPECTION OF PUPILS ATTENDING
MAINTAINED PRIMARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOLS (including Special Schools).

A.—PERIODIC MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Age Groups inspected and number of Children examined in each :—

Entrants	....	....	....	3,616
Second Age Group	....	....	....	2,527
Third Age Group	....	....	....	2,714
Total	....	....	....	8,857
Additional Periodic Inspections	....	....	....	440
Grand Total	....	....	....	<u>9,297</u>

B.—OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections	....	....	2,455
Number of Re-inspections	....	....	—
Total	....	....	<u>2,455</u>

C.—PUPILS FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Group (1)	For Defective Vision (excluding Squint) (2)	For any of the other conditions recorded in Table IIa (3)	Total individual Pupils (4)
Entrants	1	443	444
Second Age Group	158	219	371
Third Age Group	199	151	331
Total	358	813	1,146
Additional Periodic Inspections ..	28	45	70
GRAND TOTAL	386	858	1,216

TABLE II.
A.—RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL
INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

Defect Code No.	Defect or Disease	PERIODIC INSPECTIONS		SPECIAL INSPECTIONS	
		No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
		Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment	Requiring treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring treatment
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
4	Skin	138	17	42	6
5	Eyes—(a) Vision ..	361	68	66	41
	(b) Squint ..	119	47	31	26
	(c) Other ..	36	5	6	3
6	Ears—(a) Hearing ..	20	18	17	13
	(b) Otitis Media	35	11	14	4
	(c) Other ..	17	7	4	2
7	Nose or Throat ..	211	300	83	91
8	Speech	45	48	28	33
9	Cervical Glands ..	3	18	4	7
10	Heart and Circulation .	56	173	25	88
11	Lungs	98	182	59	82
12	Developmental—				
	(a) Hernia ..	10	11	4	2
	(b) Other ..	7	9	4	10
13	Orthopædic—				
	(a) Posture ..	17	40	3	5
	(b) Flat Foot ..	11	27	3	17
	(c) Other ..	36	15	13	13
14	Nervous System—				
	(a) Epilepsy ..	7	11	10	7
	(b) Other ..	15	26	10	5
15	Psychological—				
	(a) Development .	32	10	9	7
	(b) Stability ..	17	13	20	9
16	Other	179	72	74	29

TABLE II.

B.—CLASSIFICATION OF THE GENERAL CONDITION
OF PUPILS INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR
IN THE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	No. of Pupils Inspected	A. (Good)		B. (Fair)		C. (Poor)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ..	3,616	2,396	66.206	1,128	31.19	92	2.54
Second Age Group ..	2,527	1,562	61.81	896	35.46	69	2.73
Third Age Group ..	2,714	1,728	63.67	901	33.20	85	3.13
Additional Periodic Inspections	440	115	26.14	277	62.95	48	10.91
TOTAL ..	9,297	5,801	62.40	3,202	34.44	294	3.16

TABLE III.

INFESTATION WITH VERMIN.

- (i) Total number of examinations in the schools by the School Nurses 31,000
- (ii) Total number of individual pupils found to be infested 4,200
- (iii) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Notices were issued (Section 54 (2), Education Act, 1944) 1,487
- (iv) Number of individual pupils in respect of whom Cleansing Orders were issued (Section 54 (3), Education Act, 1944) —

TABLE IV.

TREATMENT OF PUPILS ATTENDING MAINTAINED
PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS

(including Special Schools).

GROUP I.—DISEASES OF THE SKIN (excluding uncleanness, for which
see Table III).

						Number of cases treated or under treatment during the year
Ringworm—(i) Scalp	....	....	....	....	....	2
(ii) Body	....	....	....	....	....	31
Scabies	....	....	....	....	....	36
Impetigo	....	....	....	....	....	336
Other Skin Diseases	....	....	....	....	....	1,030
Total	....	....	....	....	....	<u>1,435</u>

GROUP II.—EYE DISEASES, DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

						Number of cases dealt with
External and other, excluding errors of refraction and squint	....	....	....	....	....	585
Errors of refraction (including squint)	....	....	....	....	....	1,382
Total	....	....	....	....	....	<u>1,967</u>

Number of pupils for whom spectacles were—

(a) Prescribed	....	....	....	....	....	1,195
(b) Obtained	....	....	....	....	....	—

GROUP III.—DISEASES AND DEFECTS OF EAR, NOSE AND THROAT.

						Number of cases treated
Received operative treatment	....	....	....	....	....	No record
(All operative treatment carried out by Regional Hospital Board)						
Received other forms of treatment	....	....	....	....	....	569

GROUP IV.—ORTHOPÆDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

- (a) Number treated as in-patients in hospitals ...Figure not available.
- (b) Number treated otherwise ; e.g., in clinics
or out-patient departments 33 cases referred
to Orthopædic
Specialist.

Number of cases
treated

GROUP V.—CHILD GUIDANCE TREATMENT.

Number of pupils treated at Child Guidance Clinics ....	....	....	....	....	....	*370
*Local Authority's Cases....	....	....	....	....	....	169
Other Local Authorities	....	....	....	....	....	201

GROUP VI.—SPEECH THERAPY.

Number of pupils treated by Speech Therapists....	233
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GROUP VII.—OTHER TREATMENT GIVEN.

(a) Miscellaneous minor ailments	4,308
(b) Other than (a) above (specify)—						
1. Ultra Violet Ray	....	....	....	....	....	230
2. Infra Red Ray	....	....	....	....	....	61
Total ....	....	....	....	....	....	<u>4,599</u>

TABLE V.
DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT
CARRIED OUT BY THE
AUTHORITY.

(1) Number of pupils inspected by the Authority's Dental Officers—

(a) At Periodic Inspections	....	....	....	....	....	9,760
(b) Specials	....	....	....	....	....	4,236
Total (1)	....	....	....	....	....	<u>13,996</u>

(2) Number found to require treatment	....	....	....	....	....	11,194
(3) Number offered treatment	....	....	....	....	....	10,977
(4) Number actually treated	....	....	....	....	....	8,885
(5) Attendances made by pupils for treatment	....	....	....	....	....	14,054
(6) Half-days devoted to—						
Periodic Inspection	....	....	....	....	....	64
Treatment	....	....	....	....	....	1,686
Total (6)	....	....	....	....	....	<u>1,750</u>

(7) Fillings—					
Permanent Teeth	...	....	....	....	2,473
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	44
Total (7)					<u>2,517</u>
(8) Number of Teeth filled—					
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	2,249
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	44
Total (8)					<u>2,293</u>
(9) Extractions—					
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	2,333
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	11,465
Total (9)					<u>13,798</u>
(10) Administration of general anæsthetics for extraction					
	....	....	....	....	7,968
(11) Other operations—					
Permanent Teeth	....	....	....	....	340
Temporary Teeth	....	....	....	....	2,382
Total (11)....					<u>2,722</u>

Appendix to the Annual Report

OF THE

School Medical Officer

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1954.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICE.

The Psychological Service has two distinct departments :—

- (1) THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC, which deals with children who are showing problems of personality, behaviour or learning.
- (2) PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK IN THE SCHOOLS, which deals with testing schemes and the examination and treatment of the dull and backward children.

The Staff.

PÆDIATRICIAN : Dr. Jessie Watson, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

PSYCHIATRIST : Dr. W. Hinds, M.B., B.S., D.P.M.,
Child Psychiatrist to Darlington Education
Committee ; Specialist in Psychiatry to the
War Office.

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST : Miss J. M. Tennison, B.Sc.,
DIP. ED. PSYCH.

EDUCATIONAL ADVISER : Mr. W. McKie, M.A.

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER : Miss I. R. Stirling, M.A.

CLERICAL STAFF : Miss L. M. Hammond, Miss P. McConnell
and Miss M. Davison.

THE CHILD GUIDANCE CLINIC.

The work of the clinic has been carried on at a rather reduced tempo during the year. In part, this was due to a decision at the beginning of the year to reduce numbers to that which were reasonably possible to accomplish thoroughly with the present staff. Numbers, however, were further reduced owing to changes and absence of staff.

Mr. Ian Flett, the Educational Psychologist, left in the summer to take up the post of Assistant Education Officer at Preston. In November, Miss Tennison joined the staff from the Maidstone Clinic. During the absence of the Educational Psychologist the Play Group for the under-fives had to be abandoned. Dr. Hinds,

unfortunately, was unavoidably absent for nine weeks due to illness and other causes. This brought the Centre nearly to a standstill as he is in charge of all treatment and is responsible for all clinical reports to the other Authorities and the Courts. Mr. Bridge, the Deputy Director, has given valuable help in attending staff meetings when specially difficult cases were dealt with.

Dr. Hinds points out that a noticeable feature of cases seen this year has been an increase in (a) adolescents in their last year of school developing delinquency tendencies, and (b) cases involving a sex aspect. Regarding the latter, it does not seem to indicate a real increase in such type of case but merely an increased readiness on the part of people in general to refer such cases to the Centre. Regarding the adolescents, delinquent in their last year (non-sexual misdeeds) the extra year at school is still resented by some parents, who feel denied the help the boy or girl might have given if working, and the children themselves are unsettled by the grumbles. On the other hand, when part-time work is permitted, some boys feel entitled to more liberty and a greater independence—and perhaps more licence. It behoves all who deal with such to understand fully the prestige needs of adolescence.

Remedial Coaching.

As reported last year, this is now done at the Remedial Centre. Mr. McKie, however, is doing experimental work on selected cases at the Child Guidance Centre on the problem of school failure in the child of good intelligence.

Mothers' Clinic.

The Mothers' Clinic continues to be a very valuable means of treatment. This method has been tried in a larger variety of cases than the enuresis for which, except for the adolescent boy, it continues to be the method par excellence. In addition, as the follow-up visiting, which used to be continued for five years after treatment, is in abeyance just now owing to lack of staff, mothers are encouraged to come without appointment and the fact that they can do this has a stabilising effect on many and is much appreciated. Two sessions will be given to this part of the work as soon as help is available.

The abeyance of the follow-up scheme is a very serious matter as it is the best means of assessing the value of the various means of treatment and whereby mothers of the less stable type can be thus advised and helped before relapse takes place. Probably because of the absence of the follow-up the re-referrals have been larger than in previous years. An analysis of the 37 cases re-referred this year brought out some interesting results. Five cases were re-referred from the Remedial Centre in order that the child's emotional problem might be tackled. It is now the policy to do this before starting the remedial coaching, but previously it was not so. Eleven cases were sent by the Courts. These children had been seen when they were very young for enuresis, backwardness and speech. Five of these were wanderers in the pre-school period. This confirms Dr. Stott's

findings in his Report on Delinquency that wandering is frequently the precursor of delinquency. Fourteen cases were brought back by mothers or mother substitutes ; three of these were by mothers now able to attend for treatment who could not attend when they first came. Others came for advice or help in changed circumstances, e.g., death of father or when the child had reached some moment of decision. These cases required a psychiatric interview to settle the case. Many more mothers came to report progress or just to keep in touch, but these are not counted as re-referred. Two cases only came back after treatment, and it is interesting to note that they had been treated with the group method. This method has now been abandoned as it is no real saving of time unless the children are first treated individually—the exception being the under-fives.

Lectures have been given as usual to many groups of students—University, Training College and Nursing—and to teachers, Welfare Officers, P.T.A.'s, and meetings of the general public. This education in the principles of Mental Health has, from the first, been one of the main aims of the Centre. This Centre was represented at the British Psychological Conference in Nottingham and at the Child Guidance Conference in Leeds.

The Centre still deals with children from Durham and Northumberland Counties, South Shields and West Hartlepool. A very close liaison has grown up over the years with these Authorities but no new clinics have been started. It is hoped that other clinics may soon be started or our own staff increased in order that more intensive work may be done in Sunderland and some time given to the research projects which are now being started on a national basis and to which the Centre would like to contribute the experience gained.

Numbers.

Carried forward unexamined 1953	....	....	41
Referred during 1954	....	....	287
Re-referred from previous years	....	....	37
			<hr/>
			365
			<hr/>
New cases seen during the year	....	....	231
Re-referred cases seen	....	....	37
Otherwise dealt with	....	....	27
Carried forward to 1955 unexamined	....	....	70
			<hr/>
			365
			<hr/>

Diagnostic Service.

New cases	....	....	....	....	....	116
Old cases	....	....	....	....	....	20
Completion of examination	....	....	....	....	....	4
						<hr/>
						140
						<hr/>

		BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL
Medical and Social Advice	....	14	....	7	....	21
Educational Advice....	....	8	....	7	....	15
Placement	....	35	....	13	....	48
Referred to other Clinics	....	13	....	8	....	21
Mental Defect	....	8	....	4	....	12
Remedial Centre	....	9	....	—	....	9
Incomplete Examination	....	8	....	6	....	14
		95	....	45	....	140

Full Service.

		BOYS		GIRLS		TOTAL
Carried forward from 1953	....	49	....	27	....	76
Selected for Treatment 1954	....	73	....	42	....	115
Completion of Examination 1953		2	....	1	....	3
Old Cases re-referred	....	9	....	8	....	17
		133	....	78	....	211

Closed improved	....	34	....	25	....	59
Closed unadjusted	....	1	....	—	....	1
Unable to attend	....	6	....	7	....	13
Placement after Treatment	....	3	....	3	....	6
Transferred to other Clinics	....	13	....	13	....	26
Remedial Coaching Centre after Treatment	....	8	....	—	....	8
Removal from District	....	2	....	—	....	2
Carried forward to 1955	....	66	....	30	....	96
		133	....	78	....	211

REPORT OF THE PSYCHOLOGICAL WORK IN SCHOOLS.

Once again, in order to ensure the closest possible liaison between the psychological, administrative and educational aspects of the service, a team of the Deputy Director of Education (Mr. Bridge), the General Assistant (Mr. McKie) and the Educational Psychologist has been concerned in the year's work. Mr. Flett was succeeded by Miss Tennison in November.

Regular school visiting has continued, much of it in connection with the individual following examination of those groups of children examined at 7+ and 11+. There has been a marked increase in the numbers of children examined at the request of the Head Teachers. In connection with these individual examinations we should like to record our thanks to the school staffs and the School Medical and Speech Therapy Departments for their continued

invaluable co-operation. This year a total of 304 children has been examined in schools, most of these by Mr. Flett.

The group of 3,920 children aged 7+ who were transferred from Infant to Junior Departments in 1954 were again given the Moray House Picture Intelligence Test. All those scoring quotients of 75 and below will be individually examined. A similarly low scoring group of 69 of the children who were given the test in 1953 have been examined this year.

After the group test given to the 11+ age group, a total of 130 children were considered individually with a view to making recommendations about the most suitable educational provision for them.

At the beginning of the academic year, September, 1954, the six opportunity classes for retarded pupils of limited ability had to be cut down to four, because of accommodation difficulties. Of the 62 children in the 1953-54 group, only four remained seriously retarded by the end of the year, though 21 were still slightly below the level required for transfer to ordinary classes. Of these last-mentioned children, four were transferred in December, 1954. Because of the reduced accommodation there are only 59 children on roll in the opportunity classes at present, and it will be noticed that the size of the remaining classes has been increased. Follow-up testing has shown the experiment to have been so successful under the previous arrangements that limitation of its scope is to be regretted. Further follow-up testing of the present pupils, as well as of those already transferred, will be done in 1955.

A survey of the progress of the children attending one half-day a week at the Remedial Centre has indicated the value of such a scheme to the children concerned. It is proposed to extend the scheme to a full-time one, and to conduct an experiment with a view to establishing the most economical system of attendance there.

The need for the establishment of "opportunity" classes at the junior stage is still very apparent, and judging from the success of those already in operation would be of the greatest value, when staffing and accommodation in schools make such a scheme possible.

In the Spring term of 1954 a series of lectures on the teaching of reading and the teaching of number was given. We should like to express our appreciation of the generous support of the schools in this project.

It is hoped to be able to provide in the next year some help in the form of lectures and discussions on the special problems of the retarded able child, as distinct from those who are also of limited ability.

21/7/55